

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 03069 241301Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-11 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /129 W
-----016366 250937Z /20

R 241249Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3510
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS LONDON 03069

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, UK
SUBJECT: A BRITISH REACTION TO LORD KEARTON'S
NORTH SEA OIL VIEWS

REF: LONDON 2712

1. READERS OF REFTEL MAY FIND INTERESTING A SHORT
ARTICLE ENTITLED "FISH BITES BACK" IN THE FINANCIAL
TIMES OF FEBRUARY 23:

BEGIN TEXT: MAURICE HODGSON, CHAIRMAN-ELECT OF IMPERIAL
CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, SHOULD BE ABLE TO WIPE THE FLOOR
WITH HECKLERS AT THE APRIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, IF
HIS PERFORMANCE AGAINST LORD KEARTON IS ANYTHING TO GO
BY. AT THE DINNER OF THE INSTITUTION OF CHEMICAL
ENGINEERS HE FOLLOWED THE EBULLIENT KEARTON, CHAIRMAN
OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL OIL CORPORATION, AT THE MICRO-
PHONE.

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KEARTON HAD EXPOUNDED UPON THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OF
BNOC'S "VOLUNTARY" PARTICIPATION NEGOTIATIONS WITH
NORTH SEA OIL GROUPS. AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED WITH
MOST OF THE BIG COMPANIES, HE SAID; ONLY SOME SMALLER
FISH, SUCH AS ICI, WERE STILL OUTSIDE THE NET.

RISING TO HIS FEET AND TO THE OCCASION, HODGSON QUOTED

W.C. FIELDS, WHO HAD SOUGHT A DOCTOR'S ADVICE AFTER
DISCOVERING THAT HE WAS LOSING HIS HEARING, THROUGH
DRINKING TOO MUCH. THE DOCTOR TOLD HIM TO GIVE UP THE
BOTTLE. FIELDS THOUGHT CAREFULLY, SAID HODGSON, THEN
REPLIED: "WHAT I HAVE BEEN DRINKING IS A LOT BETTER
THAT WHAT I HAVE BEEN HEARING." END TEXT. BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, OFFSHORE DRILLING, PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS
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Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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